

comprising mixing the composition of matter with an excipient, pharmaceutically active ingredient, nutritional ingredient, or mixtures thereof, granulating said mixture with an aqueous solution of a binder through a fluidized bed granulation drying machine, optionally adding a sweetener to the granules, and mixing by means of a mixing machine to produce the solid composition.

#### REMARKS

Claims 1-11 are active in the present application. Claims 1-5 have been amended to remove an indefinite term. Claims 6-11 are new claims. Support for new Claim 6 can be found in the specification on page 4, line 19. Support for the new process claims can be found in the specification, for example, on page 4, third paragraph. Support for new Claim 10 can be found in the specification on page 7, lines 13-14. New Claim 11 is to a process for producing the invention of the application. Support for Claim 11 can be found on page 11, lines 5-16 of the specification.

#### REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 1-5 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter regarded as the invention. The Examiner objected to the term "disintegrant" as not recognized in the art. The term "disintegrant" has been deleted from the claims in the amendment.

The claims to a composition of matter are enabled by the disclosure which provides guidance for choosing substances that make-up the composition of matter (see for example page 5, lines 4-9; and further ingredients, page 8, line 14 through page 9, line 5). Clearly defined methods for testing the water solubility and viscosity of a candidate substance are

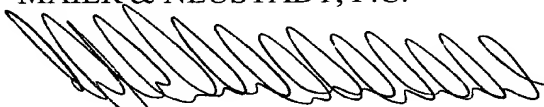
provided in the Examples (page 12). The disclosure enables those of ordinary skill in the art to quickly, and without undue experimentation, determine whether a substance meets the limitations of the instant claims.

New claims to processes for using and producing the invention have been added. The new process claims are dependent from Claim 1 and include all limitations of Claim 1. Applicants request rejoinder of the new claims as the claims are fully supported by the originally filed disclosure.

It is respectfully submitted that these amendments to the claims place all claims in condition for allowance. Applicants thus respectfully request the reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections, and passage of all now pending claims to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

- 1. (Amended) A composition of matter [disintegrant] comprising a substance wherein said substance [which] is solid at room temperature and has a water solubility of 30 wt.% or more at 37°C, a saturated aqueous solution of the substance having a viscosity of 50 mPa·s or less at 37°C.
2. (Amended) A composition of matter [disintegrant] containing one or more substances selected from the group consisting of erythritol, trehalose, xylitol, and maltose.
3. (Amended) A solid composition [containing a disintegrant as described in claim 1 or 2] comprising the composition of matter claimed in claim 1.
4. (Amended) A solid composition [containing a disintegrant] composition of matter, said composition of matter comprising a substance which is solid at room temperature and has a water solubility of 35 wt.% or more at 37°C, a saturated aqueous solution of the substance having a viscosity of 50 mPa·s or less at 37°C, wherein the amount of the [disintegrant] composition of matter is 5-99 wt.% with respect to the total weight of the solid composition.
5. (Amended) A solid composition comprising a [containing a disintegrant] composition of matter, said composition of matter comprising [containing] one or more substances selected from the group consisting of erythritol, trehalose, xylitol, and maltose, wherein the amount of the [disintegrant] composition of matter is 5-99 wt.% with respect to

the total weight of the solid composition.

Claims 6-11 (New).--